

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY MAKING RAPID STRIDES

Progress Shown as Result of Co-Operation Between Farmers and Business Men.

CROPS IMPROVING GREATLY
Fair Next Fall Expected to Be Best Ever Held—More Attention Now Being Given to Care of Orchards. Alfalfa Is Popular.

BY CHARLES C. BURR.
Demonstration Agent for Prince Edward County.

A few points about industrial and agricultural progress in Prince Edward County will prove interesting to Times-Dispatch readers, and we want everybody to know what the old county is doing.

Most crops, except hay, have improved wonderfully since the rains began recently. The hay crop, of course, was almost a failure, and while the first cutting of alfalfa suffered some from the drought, the value of this plant as a hay crop has been so far better improved upon the minds of Prince Edward farmers that it is being raised in acreage will be greatly increased in the county this fall. I am having almost daily inquiries from farmers who plan to sow an acre or more of alfalfa the coming season. Speaking of alfalfa, the first side-delivery hay rake and hay loader ever brought into this part of Virginia recently was purchased by the alfalfa king, T. B. Hix, of Hix farm, near the county seat. Sweet clover also is being grown by a number of farmers, and in connection with both of these and other leguminous crops, lime is being extensively used.

The purchase of lime co-operatively, as well as many other farm supplies, is one of the benefits of the county farmers' organizations. The number of "locals" in this county has not been increased lately, but their membership is being steadily increased by the addition of some of the best farmers, who heretofore have taken very little interest in organization and co-operation. There is evidence that our farmers are rapidly recognizing the fact that a great value of organization is to bring them together where they can get acquainted. It is being comprehended that this is an absolute prerequisite to co-operation. One "local" by the name of automobiles, is spending each Saturday afternoon visiting other "locals," and will keep this up until all have been visited.

PEAS AND MILLET ARE EXTENSIVELY SOWN

A vast amount of crimson clover seed was sown by the farmers this year, many of them using the home-made clover stripper. Peas, millet and other crops are being extensively sown, with the view of making up for the short hay crop. The folly of buying Western hay when a much better product can be grown at home and the money thus saved, is becoming to be quite generally understood. Calls for plans for the home-made silo are more and more frequent.

It is hardly necessary to add, after the above statement, that the dairy cow is increasing, and in fact, all live stock. Much is being done to improve the live stock. For instance, the Farmers' Bank of Farmville is raising and giving to the farmers purchased pigs.

The Barred Rock Association continues to grow, and sponsoring is being practiced on a much larger scale than last year. Prince Edward will have a better fair this fall than ever before. The fair is devoted strictly to the business of stimulating agricultural progress. It is not concerned with dividends and side amusements. There are no admission or entry fees and yet more than \$1500 will be distributed in prizes this year. The agricultural parade, consisting of wagonloads of farm products, originated by our fair last year, is one of the finest ideas for an agricultural fair I have ever known. One mercantile concern here is giving in cash prizes for this parade this year \$85. This fact indicates a trend of advancement, and is a very important link in the building of the farmer and business man. They are learning each other, learning their interdependence, learning to co-operate.

MUCH TIME DEVOTED TO SPRAYING DEMONSTRATION

More attention is being given to the care of orchards by the farmers. Much time was devoted by the demonstration agent last winter to pruning and spraying demonstrations, also to many public meetings were held during the winter and spring, and the agent's "dimey" became known as the "agricultural special." These meetings were conducted almost entirely by local men and women.

A. F. Treake, president of the Barred Rock Association, gave at the normal school during last winter a series of poultry lectures, which were attended by both farmers and normal students. Home demonstration work has been started in this county this year. The girls and their mothers are taking great interest in the work, and the local agent, Miss Hazy, is kept busy. The spirit of good roads has finally gripped the minds and wills of our people. Superintendent Johnson is the leader of the movement, with the tire board and population right with him. "Good Roads Everywhere" is the slogan, and they are inevitable. At the present time no movement is being held throughout the county, which will end with a grand county rally in Farmville on June 24. The chief point being considered at these meetings is the method to be adopted for building good roads. That they must and will be built is not questioned.

ELEVATOR FOR NORFOLK

Norfolk and Western to Go After Grain Hauling Business—Million-Dollar Elevator Needed.

ROANOKE, Va., July 17.—It is semi-officially stated in railroad circles that the Norfolk and Western Railway Company has about decided upon the construction of a \$1,000,000 grain elevator at Norfolk to enable it to enter largely into the grain hauling line, bringing grain from the West to the port of Norfolk for shipment across the water. President Johnson being asked for information in regard to the matter, said the situation is as yet one of investigation, and it is impossible to say just now when a decision will be reached.

To Double the Capacity

CONCORD, N. C., June 15.—The Northcott Cotton Mills of this city, have arranged to double the spinning equipment of the plant. This will necessitate the installation of 6,000 new spindles and require an enlargement of the force of operatives. This enlargement is necessitated by the rush of orders that has been on for weeks, even months past.

PUPILS SHOW INTEREST IN POULTRY RAISING

Clubs in Ten Schools of Henrico County, With Total Enrollment of 175.

COMPOSITIONS ARE WRITTEN
Work Under Supervision of Miss Sylvia H. Slocum, of U. S. Department of Agriculture, Who Tells What Has Been Accomplished.

Much interest in poultry raising has been manifested this spring by the boys and girls in the schools of Henrico County, and Miss Sylvia H. Slocum, the county home demonstration agent of the United States Department of Agriculture, has created enthusiasm among the youngsters of the county and has done a good work.

Miss Slocum gives The Times-Dispatch an outline of the work so far done. She says:

"There are now poultry clubs in ten different schools, with a total enrollment of 175. In order to become a member of a club, a boy or girl must be ten years old, and must raise some pure-bred poultry. Those who are successful in their efforts, and who complete their notebooks, are given a special poultry club pin as a reward of merit."

"One little boy has over 100 little chickens, while many have nearly that many. These children expect to raise most of these chickens and, under the direction of the local demonstration agent, to pack and grade eggs another winter and spring, so as to obtain the best prices possible. The boys and girls are requested to raise general-purpose fowls, because they are good layers, and also are good for table purposes."

MANY CONDITIONS MUST BE FULFILLED

"In order to obtain school credit for this home work, the following conditions must be fulfilled: A boy or girl must be a member for one year; must study the bulletins sent out by the poultry agent; must study instructions sent out by the Department of Agriculture; must keep a record book; must write a composition using the outlines supplied by the poultry agent; must set at least one setting of pure-bred eggs; must exhibit some chickens at State, county or school fairs; must pack and grade eggs."

"The compositions have been written, and in many cases were a part of the regular school work. Six prizes, consisting of pure-bred eggs, were offered, and the successful contestants were:

"Benjamin Franklin, Westhampton High School, setting of pure-bred White Wyandotte eggs, offered by R. H. Thomas, of Lumberton."

"Miss Elizabeth Miller, Varina High School, setting of pure-bred Plymouth Rock eggs, offered by C. C. Wine, of Mount Sidney."

"Miss Elsie Sadowsky, Varina High School, setting of pure-bred Buff Orpington eggs, offered by J. T. Mann, of Richmond."

"Miss Dorothy Cottrell, of Dumbarton, setting of pure-bred eggs, offered by J. D. Hageris, superintendent Henrico County schools."

"Miss Mabel Beavers, Varina High School, setting of pure-bred White Wyandotte eggs, offered by J. F. Funtun, of Lorraine."

"Payton Hare, Glendale High School, setting of pure-bred White Wyandotte eggs, offered by E. W. Yates, of Oak Ridge."

THREE-PRICE STORES AND THEIR MISSION. Business Not to Be Set Aside for Politics.

In numerous cities on the Pacific Coast what is called the three-price store has scored a success, and that it will move eastward there is probably little or no doubt. The one-price store is the one in which there is such thing as "driving" a bargain below the marked figures on any article is known. The method in the three-price store is described as follows:

"The price for the goods is the same to everybody. But if the customer wants the goods delivered, that is a service. If he wants credit, that is another service. If a customer wants the goods plus delivery, plus credit, he pays a certain price. If he carries the goods home, thus dispensing with delivery service, he gets a 5 per cent reduction. If he carries the goods home and pays cash, thus dispensing with both credit and delivery service, he gets 10 per cent off.

"If a customer does not require the delivery service, or the credit service, he does not have to pay for them, which is obviously fairer than a rigid one price, whether or not delivery and credit are included. If a customer does not want the bother of making change with every purchase, he can deposit a given amount, against which his purchases are charged."

"We like to see all new things, that come well recommended, tried in Richmond, but before some one jumps at the suggestion, it may be well to explain that those who have tried the three-price store out towards the Pacific testify that the success of the system depends upon the rigidity with which it is adhered to.

"We have not yet in the South, says the Manufacturers' Record, created an atmosphere thoroughly favorable to manufacturing. This section can raise money with which to start a bank or to trade in real estate, but the man who tries to raise money at one time to develop manufacturing enterprises meets with many rebuffs and with much indifference. It is only by the hardest kind of work that he can succeed in finding the capital needed for new enterprises. This is because the spirit of the people has not been thoroughly aroused and made enthusiastic for manufactures, as is the case in New England."

"There is too much truth in that, but we are improving rapidly. However, now is a mighty good time to take fresh hold and do considerable arousing."

"Please say in 'Views and Near Views' that Virginia is thoroughly satisfied with the Democratic ticket, and even if it was not entirely satisfied with it, it will give it a good healthy majority next November. Therefore there is no use to get excited over politics this year; that is, not to the discomfort of business. Let's stick to business, let's get some new industries for the old State, let's keep right on becoming and boosting Old Virginia, and especially Richmond. This must be a great business year, as well as one of political effort." Thus spoke one of the leading business men of Richmond to The Times-Dispatch, and a good suggestion he made.

TOBACCO CONDITIONS; WATCHING YOUNG PLANT

Manufacturers and Leaf Dealers as Much Interested in Growing Weed as the Farmers.

HAVE LATE CROP IN ANY EVENT
Cold Weather in Early Spring Followed by Drought Brought Hard Luck to Growers of Weed—Conditions in Dark and Bright Belts.

The long-drawn-out loose-leaf-tobacco-selling season is still on in Richmond and Petersburg, but nowhere else in Virginia or the Carolinas. Enough of the sun-cured weed reached Richmond in wagons the past week to enable the warehouses to make very small sales on Friday. In all, not over 30,000 pounds were offered. These offerings consisted of odds and ends, or, as the trade expresses it, the "barn scrapings," and this is taken as evidence that there is practically no more sun-cured stock of any value left in first hands. However, the few buyers who came out bid in a spirited way, and the sellers were very well pleased with the prices their "barn scrapings" brought.

The sales were somewhat larger in Petersburg, and it may be said that about the same conditions prevailed in that market. Petersburg handles much of the heavy dark shipping stocks that were of slow sale in the first days of the selling season, and it may be that there is quite a lot of it yet left in the barns of the growers.

EVERYBODY NOW WATCHING THE CROP FOR THIS YEAR

At this season of the year the manufacturers and leaf tobacco dealers in all of the markets are as much interested in the planting conditions and the outlook for this crop of 1916 as are the farmers, and water, tides, seasons and conditions just as closely. In the early planting time this year the growers all over Virginia and North Carolina had hard luck. The very cold spring, which retarded growth in the plant beds and destroyed thousands of the plants, was followed by very dry weather and few or no rains of sufficient volume to admit of transplanting at the right time. The result is, the crop this year will be a late one. Indeed, the farmers have not yet finished their transplanting and replanting. At least, this is true in the regions where the sun-cured and heavy dark tobacco grow, but this week will necessarily see the last of this work, for it is regarded as being as true as Scripture that tobacco plants put out after the 20th of June come to nothing, and simply mean so much work and time wasted.

CONDITIONS AS NOW SEEN IN THE BRIGHT BELTS

In the bright belts planting has been completed, although in some sections of the Piedmont and Eastern Carolina section, as well as in the Virginia "old bright belt," many farmers failed to get in as many plants as they had intended because of the unfavorable seasons. All of this means that a considerable percentage of the crop will be late, no matter what may be the character of the seasons from now on, but with anything like favorable conditions as to weather at the right time from now until cutting time, the late plantings can produce good tobacco. It is true, so the bright belt farmers say, that late plantings rarely ever bring forth strictly bright tobaccos, and so they have already given warning to the dealers in the South Boston, Danville, South Hill and other bright markets that the buyers can make their arrangements to handle a heavy-bodied tobacco, rather than a fancy bright crop, when the warehouses open up for business next fall. However, all of this is largely guesswork, for nobody knows what a day may bring forth, and seasons may be so very favorable from now on that all of these prophecies of the men so prone to look on the dark side of a picture will go astray.

In the Virginia dark belt and in the sun-curing regions of Virginia neither the farmers nor the tobacco dealers are worried with these gloomy forebodings. Their goods come dark, some varieties even black, in any event, and that is just the way they want them to come. The indications are that the crops of large and sun-cured, for all though the growers have not planted as much as they intended, because of unfavorable seasons, the fact is they intended to plant much more than they did in 1915. This because of the good figures they got for the 1915 crop and the bright prospects for equally as good or perhaps better for the 1916 crop now on the hill.

NEW BANK BUILDING

People's Bank of Bedford City to Erect Two-Story Structure That Will Beautify Town.

BEDFORD CITY, Va., June 17.—The plans for the new building of the People's Bank have been submitted by the architect and approved by the board of directors, and bids for the construction of the building will soon be called for. When completed, the People's Bank building will be the handsomest and one of the most convenient business houses in Bedford City. Besides the quarters for the bank the building will have two handsome stores on the second floor there will be twelve rooms and well-lighted and ventilated offices. The whole structure will be heated by steam from a boiler in the basement.

CAROLINA GOOD ROADS

State Association to Meet at Wrightsville Beach, Out From Wilmington, This Week.

WILMINGTON, N. C., June 17.—The North Carolina Good Roads Convention will be held at Wrightsville Beach next week, beginning on Wednesday the 21st and continuing to Friday. It is expected to be the greatest good roads meeting ever held in the Old North State, and possibly the biggest ever held in the South. The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, the Board of County Commissioners of New Hanover County, the Wilmington Rotary Club, the North Carolina Moving-Picture Association and the Wilmington business men generally are co-operating with the Good Roads Association. The railroads have also come up to the help of the work of making the convention one of unprecedented success. A very large attendance is expected.

SOY BEAN IS VALUABLE WHEN CRUSHED INTO OIL

Circular on Subject Issued by Official of North Carolina Experiment Station.

BEATS COTTONSEED PRODUCT
Great Interest in Matter Shown by Paint Manufacturers Throughout U. S. and Canada—Beginning of New Industry for South.

C. B. Williams, chief of the division of agronomy of the North Carolina experiment station, is in earnest about the coming value to the country of the once-despised soy bean. The Industrial Section has quoted Mr. Williams on this subject before, when he gave facts and figures in regard to experiments made by certain cottonseed-oil mills in Eastern North Carolina in converting their mills into soy-bean-oil mills.

Mr. Williams has issued another circular, in which he gives the history of the introduction of the soy bean into this part of the country about a third of a century ago, the uses to which it was put and its discovered value very recently as an oil producer, and then goes on to say:

"From the standpoint of the cotton-oil mill, soy beans offer, it seems to us, an unusual opportunity to greatly prolong the operating season, and thereby materially reduce the overhead charges. With very little adjustment in mills equipped with expellers, it is possible to change from operating on cottonseed to the crushing of soy beans. This latter operation, according to our information, can be carried on at considerably less expense, both for fuel and for labor. It is probable that if conditions similar to those prevailing during the past winter again prevail, the oil mill should be able to pay from \$1 to \$1.20 per bushel for the beans. Many growers of soy beans would be glad to contract all their crop every year at about these prices."

LARGE YIELDS OF BEANS SECURED BY GROWERS

"Growers in Eastern North Carolina are able to secure in most cases almost as large yields of soy beans per acre as of corn. The price of corn per bushel ordinarily will not be more than 1 cent to 1-1/2 cents per pound, while soy beans at \$1 to \$1.20 per bushel would be 1-2-3 to 2 cents per pound in addition to this, the vines left on the land or in the barn have a higher fertilizer and feeding value than that of the corn after the ears have been removed."

"From the information we have at

hand, the oil mills that have crushed soy beans during the past winter and spring have been able to secure about \$40 a ton for the meal and from \$5 to 60 cents or more per gallon for their crude soy-bean oil. It would seem to us that never will there be a time when soy-bean meal will not bring a higher price per ton than will cottonseed meal, as the soy-bean meal is much richer in nitrogen and equally as rich in phosphoric acid and potash as is cottonseed meal.

"In the case of the soy-bean oil, it has a far greater value in the commercial world than the cottonseed oil. Cottonseed oil cannot be used very satisfactorily to replace linseed oil in the manufacture of paints and varnishes, but soy-bean oil can, and we are reliably informed, up to 25 to 30 per cent or more, because of its greater drying qualities."

MUCH OIL IMPORTED HERE FROM ASIA

"During 1915 there was imported into this country from Asia 20,000,000 pounds of soy-bean oil, which cost the purchasers in this country in round numbers \$9,000,000. We believe that this demand could easily have been met if all of our Southern cotton-oil mills had crushed beans where they could have secured them at such prices as to have justified them in crushing. Not only this, but there is an unlimited demand, it would appear, for soy-bean oil in this country in the manufacture of soaps and of substitutes for lard."

"Paint manufacturers throughout the United States and Canada are showing a lively interest in the manufacture of soy-bean oil by Southern cotton-oil mills."

RAILWAY EQUIPMENT

Orders for More Cars and Steel Rails Show Prosperity of Roads Passing Through Virginia.

The Southern Railway is going right ahead adding to its equipment for present use and for future emergencies. The company is having 1,000 box cars built at the Lenoir Car Works, Lenoir City, Tenn. Orders have been filed with the Maryland Steel Company for 10,000 tons of steel rails for delivery early in the year 1917.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway is also in the market for more freight cars, and it is reported that bids have been asked on 1,000 cars for as quick delivery as may be possible after the filing of the order.

The Virginia Railway is feeling for propositions to have furnished 1,500 all steel gondola cars. The order, if orders may be placed within the next month, may be placed within the next month.

SAWMILL WASTE MAKES GOOD SILK STOCKINGS

Investigators and Experimenters Discover That Despised Sawdust Can Be Converted Into Hosiery.

POSSIBLE NEW INDUSTRIES
Mountains of Lumber Refuse in Virginia—Burn It No More—Convertible Into Baking Powder and Milk Bottles—Big Thing in Sight.

People traveling through the lumber sections of Virginia and North Carolina, where sawmills and planing mills are numerous, can but notice the huge piles of sawdust where sawmills recently stood, and the glowing fires near where they now stand. In these fires the sawdust and other refuse from the mills are being destroyed, that they may be gotten out of the way.

The question has frequently been asked of lumber cutters and sawmill men if the sawdust and other leavings cannot be utilized in a profitable way, instead of being destroyed or left in great heaps to rot away. That question has frequently been asked and discussed in these columns, but no satisfactory answer has yet been made.

In this connection the following from the Manufacturers' Record may prove of interest. That journal says: "Baking powder, sugar, artificial silk, silk stockings, twine, furniture, milk bottles, rugs and the strongest paper ever made" are some of the things which the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association of Chicago reports as being successfully produced at Madison, Wis. In the forest products laboratory of the United States Department of Agriculture.

"According to this story, sent out by the Lumber Manufacturers' Association, demonstrations were recently made at Madison to the members of the association, which proved amazing to them. This 'sawdust' laboratory, as it is called, is producing baking powder from sawdust, and the visiting lumber people were treated to biscuits made with this powder and 'sawdust sugar' instead of the use of the usual tartaric acid baking powder."

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN SAWDUST SILK STOCKINGS

"Among other things made of sawdust or converted mill waste is artificial silk. It is said that this country last year produced sawdust silk stockings to the value of \$5,000,000. The same laboratory is said to be turning sawmill waste into binder twine, rope, woven furniture, milk bottles, woven matting, rugs; and likewise it is claimed that the 'strongest paper ever made' is produced in a simple manner

from the waste of Southern pine," and it is said if the new process should be used generally, it would increase the paper production in the South 20,000 tons daily."

Just think of it: baking powder, artificial silk and silk stockings, milk bottles, sugar, twine, some kind of furniture, rugs for the floor and last, but by no means least, a superior paper are only some of the things that may be made from the mountains of sawdust throughout all the lumber-cutting regions of Virginia. Surely here is something for the sawmill men to catch on to. Several new small industries seem to be wrapped up in an investigation of this matter.

INDUSTRIAL BRIEFLETS

Interesting Bits of News From Various Parts of the Big Round World.

South America is producing imitation ivory.

Lyddite is picric acid melted with a little vaseline.

It requires one ton of musk rose petals to distill one pound of pure attar of roses.

Swine provided 60 per cent of the total meat consumed in the German empire last year.

Kentucky, the two Virginias and Pennsylvania produce nearly all the camel coal mined in the United States.

There are 4,200 species of plants used for commercial purposes. Of these, 120 are used for perfumes.

French scientists have discovered a new source of vegetable ivory in the fruit of a small palm that grows principally in the Sudan.

French phonograph records, made on a recently invented cloth, which can be mailed like letters, threaten to rival stenographers.

American moving-picture films are being sold in increasing quantities in France owing to the curtailment of the French and Italian film output, due to the war.

Fig and barley coffees have been placed on the market in Chile as substitutes for coffee, and their low price is making them popular in Santiago, capital of the republic, and in the provinces.

In Great Britain enemies have invested in capitalized companies to the amount of \$160,000,000 in real estate and personal property, more than \$337,000,000; in banks and bills receivable, not less than \$71,000,000. The income is paid into the hands of a public trustee, who will eventually disburse the funds to the various alien creditors.

Winston-Salem a Port of Delivery.

With the signature of the President to the bill, which has just passed both houses of Congress, Winston-Salem, N. C., will become a port of delivery, as well as a port of entry, equal to any in the country. A port of entry only provides for the transfer of goods from one bonded warehouse in the country to another, but a port of delivery provides for the immediate transportation in bond of any goods from foreign countries without appraisal at the seaport.



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